

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

RI Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2014

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Kevin Nelson RI Statewide Planning

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Jay B. Aron RIDEM, Forestry

Martha Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Henry Cruciani Appalachian Mountain Club

Gail A. Hogan Rhode Island Rifle & Revolver Association

Steve Hogan Gun Owners Political Action Committee

Meeting called to order at 3:18 PM.

1. Introductions:

Kevin Nelson announced he was chairing the meeting for Lisa Primiano, who is on vacation. Harvey Buford attended to provide information to the Committee on the behalf of two applicants for small trail grants; Hopkinton Land Trust and Hopkinton Conservation

Commission.

2. Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Kevin Nelson pointed out typos. Motion to accept meeting minutes of November 19, 2013 meeting as amended by Steve Hogan, seconded by Roy Najecki. Approved.

3. Small Grant Requests

o Rhode Island Land Trust Council- \$4750.00 to fund Land Trust Days events. Martha Cruciani spoke in favor of the grant since funding for this type of project is difficult to obtain and the applicant has a track record of successfully completing projects. She made a motion to approve the grant, seconded by Steve Hogan. Approved.

o Hopkinton Land Trust. \$3000.00. Trail Equipment. Harvey Buford provided detail on the grant request which informed the Committee that the grant request was for a hammer drill and a generator for use on two projects using donated cap stones that need to be cut. Gregg Cassidy informed the Applicant that it is the policy of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to encourage equipment rental instead of purchase. Martha Cruciani made a motion to approve the request pending approval from FHWA, and if purchase is disallowed to approve a grant for rental of the necessary equipment to complete

the two projects. Seconded by Stephan Hogan. Approved.

o Hopkinton Conservation Commission- \$3000.00. Mapping. This grant request was seen by the Committee previously and was tentatively approved pending approval from FHWA. The request was denied as first proposed and has been modified and resubmitted. Recreational trail funding can only be used for production of signs or maps for the project and cannot be used for data collection and/or layout. Steve Hogan made a motion to approve up to \$3000 for the production of paper, digital, and a kiosk map but expenses for gathering or manipulating data are excluded from reimbursable expenses in line with FHWA guidelines. Seconded by Gail Hogan. Approved.

o Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. \$2850.00 request for equipment and trail improvements at Barre and Indian Springs Trail on Prudence Island. Roy Najecki pointed out that several of the attachments requested (hedge trimmer, lawn mower) were not needed for trail work. He also noted the project narrative stated the trail involved wetlands but the budget did not allow for permitting expenses so the cost to do the project will be higher than estimated. Roy Najecki made a motion to approve the grant for up to \$2850 disallowing equipment purchase but allocating up to \$500 to cover permitting expenses. Seconded by Martha Cruciani. Approved.

4. Other Business

None

**Motion to Adjourn made by Steve Hogan, seconded by Jay Aron.
Approved. Adjourn at 4:10.**

Next Meeting:

May 20, 2014 @ 3:00 PM

USDA, 60 Quaker Lane Warwick, RI 02886